

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An adapter comprising an analog to digital converter, for connecting an analog connection of an analog telephone set to a digital input of a computer.

2. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 1, further comprising a first output port configured as a telephone socket for attachment of a telephone plug, therewith to connect to said analog connection.

3. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 2 further comprising one or more additional output ports, likewise configured as telephone sockets and each having a unique address, therewith to connect to analog connections of additional analog telephone sets.

4. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 1 further comprising a look-up table for translating numerical address information entered at a key pad of the analog telephone set into addresses on the computer.

5. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 1 further comprising a look-up table for translating numerical information entered at a key pad of the analog telephone set into addresses on a network to which the computer is attachable.

6. (Original) An adapter according to claim 5 wherein the lookup table contains Internet addresses and wherein the computer is attachable to the Internet.

7. (Currently Amended) An adapter comprising an analog to digital converter, for connecting an analog connection of an analog telephone set to a digital connection of a computer network.

8. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 7, further comprising a first output port configured as a telephone socket for attachment of a telephone plug, therewith to connect to said analog connection.

9. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 8 further comprising one or more additional output ports, configured as telephone sockets and each having a unique address, therewith to connect to analog connections of additional analog telephone sets.

10. (Currently Amended) An adapter according to claim 7 wherein the adapter contains a look-up table for converting numerical data entered at a keypad of the analog telephone set into addresses on the network.

11. (Original) An adapter according to claim 7 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

12. (Original) An adapter according to claim 11 comprising a module for operating an Internet protocol.

13. (Currently Amended) The use of an analog telephone set as a peripheral device for a computer, wherein the telephone is operatively attached via an analog connection to a digital port of the computer through an adapter which is operable to convert digital signals output from the computer into analog signals for input to the telephone and to convert analog signals output from the telephone into digital signals for input to the computer.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The use of an analog telephone set according to claim 13, for conducting voice communication over a network to which the computer is attached.

16. (Currently Amended) The use of an analog telephone set as a peripheral device for a computer, the analog telephone set having an analog connection, the computer comprising control software for managing said analog telephone set via said analog connection.

address

17. (Currently Amended) The use of an analog telephone set according to claim 16 wherein the control software includes encryption software.

18. (Currently Amended) The use of an analog telephone set according to claim 16 wherein the control software includes exchange management capabilities.

✓ 19. (Currently Amended) A telephone communication system providing communication between a multiplicity of telephone instruments via a PSTN and a computer network, the system comprising:

a digital telephone switch controller interfacing between a local telephone instrument, the PSTN and a computer connected to the computer network and operative to analyze at least signaling information arriving from at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network and to responsively transmit at least one of voice information and signalling information to at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network, said digital telephone switch controller being an autonomous device.

20. (Currently Amended) A telephone system with local ringing voltage generation, the system comprising:

a local ringing voltage generator operative to locally apply single line ringing voltage to an analog telephone instrument not directly connected to the public switched telephone network, thereby to induce the analog telephone instrument to produce a ringing tone; and

a voltage generator actuator operative to actuate the local ringing voltage generator upon receipt of a single line voltage generation actuation signal from a the not-directly connected remote-public system telephone network.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method for setting up a conference call between three participants, the method comprising:

providing a digital telephone switch controller interfacing between a local telephone instrument, the PSTN and a computer connected to the computer network and operative to analyze signaling information and voice information arriving from at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network and to responsively transmit at least one of voice information and signaling information to at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network; and

using the digital telephone switch controller to set up a conference call between the local telephone instrument, a remote telephone instrument, via the PSTN, and a remote subscriber to the computer network, via the computer network, wherein the digital telephone switch controller is autonomous respectively of said local telephone instrument, said computer and the PSTN.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22 wherein the controller receives digital voice information from the remote computer network subscriber, via the computer network.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 22 wherein the controller receives analog voice information from the local telephone instrument.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 22 wherein the controller receives analog voice information from the PSTN.

26. (Original) A system according to claim 19 wherein said controller is operative to analyze signalling information and voice information arriving from at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network.

27. (Currently Amended) A telephone communication system providing communication between a multiplicity of telephone instruments via at least one PSTN and at least one computer network, the system comprising:

a digital telephone switch controller interfacing between a local telephone instrument, the PSTN and a computer connected to the computer network and operative to analyze at least signalling information arriving from at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network and to perform local least cost call routing of corresponding voice information to a remote telephone instrument, wherein the digital telephone switch controller is autonomous respectively of said local telephone instrument, said computer and the PSTN.

28. (Original) A system according to claim 19 and wherein said switch controller is operative to mix voice information arriving from the local telephone instrument with voice information arriving from the PSTN.

29. (Currently Amended) A telephone communication system providing communication between a multiplicity of telephone instruments via a PSTN and a computer network, the system comprising:

a digital telephone switch controller interfacing between a local telephone instrument, the PSTN and a computer connected to the computer network and operative to analyze at least signaling information arriving from at least one of the

local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network and to route at least one of voice information and signaling information accordingly, wherein the digital telephone switch controller is autonomous respectively of said local telephone instrument, said computer and the PSTN.

30. (Original) A telephone communication system according to claim 29 and wherein said digital telephone switch controller comprises a slot for a PC card.

31. (Currently Amended) A telephone communication system providing communication between a multiplicity of telephone instruments via a PSTN and a computer network, said system comprising a local level in which a plurality of devices are connected together at a node of the PSTN, said system being -and operative to record said communication at a said local level, the system comprising:

- a recording device for recording said communication at said local level, and
- a digital telephone switch controller interfacing between a local telephone instrument, the PSTN and a computer connected to the computer network and operative to route voice information arriving from at least one of the local telephone instrument, the PSTN and the computer network to said recording device, wherein the digital telephone switch controller is autonomous respectively of said local telephone instrument, said computer and the PSTN.

32. (Currently Amended) A telephone communication system providing communication between a multiplicity of telephone instruments, a PSTN, and a computer network, the system comprising:

a digital telephone switch controller interfacing with a computer connected to the computer network, and an adapter interfacing with a local telephone instrument and a PSTN, wherein said adapter comprises a PC card, wherein the digital telephone switch controller is autonomous respectively of said local telephone instrument, said computer and the PSTN.

33. (Original) A telephone communication system according to claim 32 and wherein said digital telephone switch controller comprises a slot for said PC card.